

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

### Lincoln Hails Passage of Final Appropriations Package *Complete List of \$125 Million for Arkansas Projects Included*

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2004, U.S. Senator Blanche Lincoln (D-Ark.) voted to approve the Fiscal Year 2005 omnibus appropriations package, which contains more than \$125 million for numerous Arkansas projects. The massive spending package, which funds the government on an annual basis, was signed into law by President Bush on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

The \$388 billion omnibus appropriations package, which is comprised of nine of the government's 13 annual spending bills and 13 federal departments, passed the Senate by a vote of 65-30. Funding for Arkansas projects was contained in seven of the nine bills and the amounts are as follows:

**\$36,202,446** for Arkansas in the Agriculture Appropriations bill;  
**\$1,800,000** for Arkansas in the Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Appropriations bill;  
**\$29,664,000** for Arkansas in the Energy and Water Appropriations bill;  
**\$7,422,000** for Arkansas in the Interior Appropriations bill;  
**\$5,850,000** for Arkansas in the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations bill;  
**\$38,456,000** for Arkansas in the Transportation Appropriations bill; and  
**\$5,935,000** for Arkansas in the Veterans Administration, Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill.

The following is a full list of the Arkansas projects contained in the Fiscal Year 2005 Omnibus Appropriations Package:

#### **AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS**

The following is a list of projects for Arkansas contained in the FY 2005 Agriculture Appropriations bill included in the Omnibus Package:

**\$2.5 million for the Delta Regional Authority.** The Authority provides long-term coordination among federal, state, and local entities committed to economic development in the Lower Mississippi Delta region. \$1 million of the funds are contained in the Rural Community Advancement Program for grants, \$1.5 million is contained in the Rural Development Loan Fund Program to provide loans.

**\$2.5 million to the Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas (ATTRA),** located at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville. ATTRA is headquartered in Montana. Its national mission is to collect and provide cutting-edge research and production information and technical assistance to commercial producers, county extension agents, and others involved in information dissemination on organic and sustainable agriculture practices that are environmentally friendly and lower production costs.

**\$1.444 million for Animal Science Food Safety Consortium** for food safety research and education in Arkansas, Illinois, and Kansas. In Arkansas, the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, University of Arkansas for Medical Science and Arkansas Children's Hospital will benefit.

**\$207,000 for University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff** for aquaculture research and education activities.

**\$465,000 for the Center for Integrated Forest Management Strategies at the University of Arkansas in Monticello** for forestry research and education activities.

**\$1.119 million for Institute for Food Science and Engineering at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville** for food science and nutrition research and education.

**\$182,000 for Beef Producers Improvement at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville** for research and education on management techniques for the cattle industry.

**\$399,000 to the Little Red River Irrigation Project** in White County to continue planning and design of irrigation and conservation measures to address water quality and quantity concerns.

**\$502,000 to the National Center for Agricultural Law Research and Information** at the Leflar School of Law at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

**\$1.86 million to the Small Farms, South Central Family Farm Research Center, Booneville.**

**\$2.687 million to the South Central Family Farm Research Center in Booneville,** to expand cooperative research with the University of Missouri Agroforestry Center on plants, along with funding for shiitake mushroom research.

**\$5.935 million to the Arkansas Children's Nutrition Center in Little Rock** for expanded research on children's nutrition and health from conception through adolescence. Also funding for the **Diet and Immune Function at Arkansas Children's Nutrition Center** and for **Sorghum Research at Arkansas Children's Nutrition Center**.

**\$3.9 million to the Lower Mississippi Delta Nutrition Intervention Initiative** for planning and research to assess health and nutrition in the Delta Region over the next five years. This consortium consists of the Agricultural Research Service and six universities located in Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana.

**\$4.199 million to the Harry Dupree National Aquaculture Research Center in Stuttgart** for research on the genetic improvement of hybrid striped bass. Arkansas leads the nation in raising hybrid striped bass, as well as in producing 80 percent of the nation's baitfish and other food fish.

**\$1.716 million to the Geographic Information System.**

**\$225,000 to the Ozark Nutrient Management Project in the State of Arkansas.**

**\$2,612,500 to the National Water Management Center.**

**\$3.72 million to the Rice Research at the Dale Bumpers Rice Research Center in Stuttgart.**

**\$1.5 million for Poultry Production and Product Safety Research Unit at the University of Arkansas.**

**\$1.029 million to the Aquaculture Fisheries Center at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.**

The Natural Resources Conservation Service account includes directives to provide funds for the completion of the Kuhn Bayou (Point Remove) project. The projected cost of the final phase is **\$2.73 million.**

The Natural Resources Conservation Service account includes directives to provide funds for the **Bayou Meto and Big Slough Watershed** projects.

The Agriculture spending bill contains directives recommending the following projects for technical assistance and funding:

Sweet Potato Farmers Storage and Outreach Project  
Dallas County  
Ozone Water Project  
City of Ola

### **COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE (CJS) APPROPRIATIONS**

The following is a list of projects for Arkansas contained in the FY 2005 Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations bill included in the Omnibus Package:

**\$500,000 for Arkansas State Police for Law Enforcement Technologies.**

**\$20,000 for the City of Warren for Law Enforcement Technologies.**

These funds will provide the Warren Police Department with new radios for its units.

**\$45,000 for the City of Dumas for Generation Next Youth Empowerment.**

The City of Dumas will use these funds to prevent juvenile delinquency.

**\$185,000 for Independence County for Law Enforcement Programs.**

These funds will be used to provide security at Lyon College's Derby Center for Mathematics and Sciences.

**\$300,000 for COPS Methamphetamine Drug Hot Spots Program, Arkansas State Police,** to help Arkansas combat the production, use, and distribution of methamphetamine. Because of this great concern, Arkansas has received funding for the methamphetamine Hot Spots Initiative in FY 2001, FY 2002, FY 2003, and FY 2004.

The need for continued funding is even greater because shortfalls in the State of Arkansas’s revenue stream have reduced the State Police’s general revenue in recent years.

**ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS**

**\$6.048 million to the Delta Regional Authority.**

This funding is an increase of \$3.952 million over Bush Administration and House budget proposals.

**\$575,000 to Lyon College in Batesville.**

This funding includes \$575,000 for the Derby Mathematics and Science Center at Lyon College.

**\$1 million to the National Center for Reliable Electric Power Transmission.**

This funding will be used to develop high power silicon-carbide based power electronics system at the University of Arkansas.

**\$600,000 to the Blytheville Harbor for navigation.**

**\$125,000 to the City of Grubbs for flood control.**

**\$50,000 to the City of Wynne for flood control.**

**\$60,000 to the City of Brownsville for an aquatic ecosystem restoration project.**

**\$90,000 to Mississippi County for Ditch 28 to improve the environment.**

**\$20,000 to the City of Horseshoe Lake for environmental improvement.**

**Corps of Engineers – Mississippi River and Tributaries**

*General Investigation*

**\$50,000 to Southeast Arkansas for the Boeuf Tensas project.**

**\$1,224,000 to Bayou Meto Basin.**

*Construction*

**\$975,000 to Francis Bland Floodway Ditch (Eight Mile Creek).**

**\$500,000 to Grand Prairie.**

**\$3,980,000 to Mississippi River Levees in Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri & Tennessee.**

**\$2,305,000 to St. Francis Basin in Arkansas and Missouri.**

**\$3,641,000 for Channel Improvements in Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri & Tennessee.**

*Maintenance*

**\$1,835,000 to Mississippi River Levees in Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri & Tennessee.**

**\$1,170,000 to St. Francis Basin in Arkansas and Missouri.**

**Corps of Engineers – Construction Account**

**\$2.25 million** to McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System.  
**\$9.09 million** to Montgomery Point Lock and Dam.  
**\$1.5 million** to Red River Emergency Bank Protection in Arkansas and Louisiana.  
**\$750,000** to Red River Below Denison Dam in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.  
**\$5 million** to Ozark-Jeta Taylor Powerhouse for major rehabilitation.

#### **Corps of Engineers – General Investigation**

**\$125,000** to Arkansas River Levees for planning;  
**\$500,000** to Arkansas River Navigation Study;  
**\$67,000** to Hot Springs Creek Study;  
**\$25,000** to May Branch, Fort Smith, for planning;  
**\$50,000** to North Little Rock, Dark Hollow, for planning;  
**\$100,000** to Pine Mountain Dam for planning;  
**\$1 million** to White River Basin Comprehensive for investigations;  
**\$150,000** to White River Minimum Flows for planning; and  
**\$100,000** to White River Navigation to Newport for planning.

#### **Corps of Engineers – Operations and Maintenance**

**\$300,000** to Bull Shoals Lake;  
**\$175,000** to Helena Harbor, Phillips County;  
**\$285,000** to Osceola Harbor;  
**\$5,026,000** to Ouachita and Black Rivers, Arkansas and Louisiana;  
**\$61,000** to Yellow Bend; and  
**\$500,000** to White River.

### **INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS**

#### **\$4.989 million to Hot Springs National Park.**

This funding will be used for the rehabilitation of the Hale, Ozark, and Quapaw Bathhouses.

#### **\$733,000 to Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site.**

This funding will allow the National Park Service to move forward with planning for a new visitors center that will accommodate the thousands of visitors that visit the historic site each year. The existing center is only 1,700 square feet and can accommodate 35 people at one time.

#### **\$1 million to Ouachita National Forest - Lake Ouachita North.**

This funding will be used to acquire land for public use.

#### **\$700,000 to Cache River National Wildlife Refuge - McCaughan Tract.**

The McCaughan Tract has over four miles of Cache River frontage, while 90% of it is covered by forest and bordered by the Refuge on the north and south side. This funding will be used to conserve a substantial piece of the Mississippi Delta.

**LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS),**  
**EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS**

The following is a list of projects for Arkansas contained in the FY 2005 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill included in the Omnibus Package:

**\$1.25 million to Mid-America Genetics Distance Education Consortium**

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) has outlined, in partnership with the University of Kansas Medical Center; the Tulane University School of Medicine; the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center; the University of Nebraska Medical Center; the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center; and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, an innovative consortium to address the need for genetic counselors in our country.

**\$100,000 to Expanding Social Services into the Arkansas Delta**

This would provide for the continuation and significant expansion of its School of Social Work Research Center (SSWRC). Established to reduce poverty in Arkansas through improved research, teaching, and outreach, the SSWRC has begun a Poverty Reduction Technology Transfer/Computer Center, initiated projects with health and human service agencies, developed a research curriculum, held the first Poverty Summit, and funded research fellowships.

**\$1 million to Clinton School of Public Service at the University of Arkansas**

These funds will help establish the Clinton School of Public Service at the University of Arkansas. The Clinton School is the educational cornerstone of the Clinton Presidential Library Project in Little Rock. The school is collaborating with the Clinton Policy Center, the Clinton Archives and Museum, and will be housed in the presidential library facility in downtown Little Rock.

**\$150,000 to National Office for Rural Measurement and Evaluation System**

The National Office for Rural Measurement and Evaluation System (NORMES) at the University of Arkansas uses technology designed, built, and perfected at the university to vastly improve the instructional practices and learning possibilities of children from grades 3 through 8. This merger of technology and methodology addresses the immediate need for improved student assessment and evaluation practices in public school systems.

**\$750,000 to Arkansas State University**

Arkansas State University will use these funds in coordination with the University of Memphis and the University of Mississippi to serve the specific education needs of the Mississippi Delta. This education-based project's goals include enhancing teacher quality as well as providing students with the skills and resources they need for development.

**\$320,000 to Pulaski County Technical College (PTC)**

PTC's student enrollment numbers have soared and the existing library no longer meets the needs of the college and requirements to retain its accreditation. This funding will purchase needed technology, equipment, books, and furnishings for the library expansion.

**\$50,000 to Benton County Sheriff's Office**

This funding will enable the Sheriff's Office to purchase technology that is able to kill up to 99.99997% of airborne pathogens in its facilities involving inmates.

**\$50,000 to Stepping Stone's Center for Children**

Stepping Stone will use these funds to build the 59,000 square foot Center for Children. The Center will house the consistently growing and long-standing services provided to children with developmental disabilities and their families. The Center will effectively double the ability of Stepping Stone to meet the needs of more than 400 individuals and their families in Northwest Arkansas annually.

**\$350,000 to University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), ANGELS Program**

The Antenatal and Neonatal Guidelines, Education, and Learning System (ANGELS) program is a national model for the delivery of quality prenatal care through telemedicine linkages. This funding will expand the ANGELS program to additional hospitals resulting in more women with high-risk pregnancies living in rural areas of Arkansas having access to quality care they and their babies need.

**\$340,000 to Southern Arkansas University (SAU)**

The successful nursing program at SAU has outgrown space in the existing Wharton Nursing Building. This funding will provide for an addition to the building so that students and faculty members will have access to the resources they need.

**\$100,000 to Save the Children (STC)**

STC is one of the world's leading independent child-assistance organizations. In Arkansas, STC serves approximately 1,000 children living in poverty with educational programs during after-school hours. This funding will provide assistance to STC's quality literacy, physical activity, and nutrition programs that are in such high demand.

**\$350,000 to Arkansas State University Mountain Home (ASUMH)**

ASUMH's growing enrollment has created the need of a new health sciences building. This funding will allow ASUMH to build the Allied Health Building, which will house an additional laboratory and classrooms for the health profession programs, which include nursing, EMT/paramedic, hearing healthcare, opticianry, and funeral services programs.

**\$320,000 to Philander Smith College**

This funding will provide for equipment, supplies, furnishings, and personnel for the Harry R. Kendall Science and Health Mission Center at Philander Smith College.

**\$320,000 to Henderson State University**

This funding will be used for facilities and equipment for the nursing program at Henderson State University.

**\$400,000 to DeWitt Hospital and Nursing Home**

This funding will be used for facilities and equipment.

**VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT**  
**(VA-HUD) APPROPRIATIONS**

The following is a list of projects for Arkansas contained in the FY 2005 Veterans Administration, Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill included in the Omnibus Package:

**\$621,250** for the City of Conway for downtown revitalization.

**\$150,000** for Monticello, Drew County, for Phase II of the Regional Sports Complex construction.

**\$72,750** for the City of Prescott for the development of an athletic playing field.

**\$1 million for the Arkansas-Oklahoma Center for Space and Planetary Sciences**

A major step toward understanding the composition of solar system bodies is to bring samples back to Earth. The Arkansas-Oklahoma Center is poised to take on this role with a unique collaboration between two states, two universities, four colleges and ten academic departments, founded on the largest facility in the nation, the Andromeda Planetary Environmental Chamber.

**\$150,000 to the University of Arkansas**

This funding will be used for environmental resource management to develop watershed technology and management tools.

**\$150,000 to North Arkansas College**

This funding is for the construction of a conference and workforce center at North Arkansas College.

**\$444,000 to Arkansas State University-Mountain Home**

This funding is for the construction of the Vada Sheid Community Development Center on the campus of Arkansas State University-Mountain Home. This facility would accommodate 1,500 people and serve as an impetus for economic development and job creation in the region.

**\$347,000 to the Old Independence Regional Museum in Batesville**

These funds will help renovate the museum located in Batesville which serves a 12-county area and enjoys over 6,000 visitors each year, with one third comprising area school children.

**\$200,000 to Arkansas State University**

This funding will support the Delta Center for Water Quality at Arkansas State University.

**\$500,000 to the Fayetteville Regional Wastewater System**

This funding will be used to initiate construction within 6 to 9 months for wastewater system improvements in Fayetteville.

**\$600,000 to the Fort Chaffee Redevelopment Authority**

This funding will be used to make improvements to the water and wastewater service infrastructure at Fort Chaffee, in Fort Smith.

**\$250,000 to the Faulkner County Public Utilities Board**

This funding will be used for wastewater infrastructure improvements for Lake Conway in Faulkner County.

**\$1.2 million to Integrated Public/Private Energy and Environmental Consortium (IPEC)**

This funding will be used to develop cost-effective environmental technology, improved business practices and technology transfer for the domestic petroleum industry. The consortium includes the University of Arkansas, University of Tulsa, the University of Oklahoma, and Oklahoma State University. IPEC's links to the independent sector ensure that real problems in the domestic petroleum industry are addressed with real, workable solutions.

**\$250,000 to Ouachita River Millennium Park Pavilion in Malvern**

This funding will complete the pavilion and changing facilities in Millennium Park essential to the area's future growth and development. The Ouachita River is one of the few places in the central U.S. with a guaranteed water flow during the summer.

**TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS**

The following is a list of projects for Arkansas contained in the FY 2005 Transportation bill included in the Omnibus Package:

**\$1 million to U.S. 412 Paragould - Big Slough Ditch.** Funds will be used to widen U.S. 412 to four lanes from Paragould to Big Slough Ditch. U.S. 412 is Congressionally designated High Priority Corridor #8.

**\$1 million to Highway 165 for Stuttgart Railroad Overpass.** Funds will be used to provide a four-lane grade separation at the Highway 165 crossing of the Union Pacific Railroad in Stuttgart. The project will eliminate the only at-grade railroad crossing on Highway 165 in Stuttgart.

**\$3.5 million to the Little Rock River Rail project.** Funding will be used to complete Phase 2 of the project, which would extend rail to the William Jefferson Clinton Presidential Library and other major destinations (replace w/ World Headquarters of Heifer Project International?).

**\$8 million to the state of Arkansas for transit needs.** This project is to purchase new and replacement vans and buses for Arkansas' small urban and rural transit systems. The funds will go toward the construction of maintenance facilities, and will supplement the procurement of vans and small buses for Arkansas' 250 community service organizations serving the elderly and persons with disabilities.

**\$2 million to the Jenny Lind Road Project in Fort Smith.** Jenny Lind Road is an arterial street on Fort Smith's master street plan. These funds will allow Fort Smith to expand this important roadway to improve transportation through the city.

**\$1 million to the Caraway Bridge Overpass Project.** Caraway Road is one of the three major north-side thoroughfares in Jonesboro and serves as the primary entrance point into the Arkansas State University campus. The project would improve vehicular traffic flow in and around the Arkansas State University campus and would eliminate unscheduled traffic delays. The project would also include an overpass for pedestrians to safely transit the area.

**\$5 million to Highway 226: Highway 67 to Highway 63 (Northeast Arkansas).** This project is for the construction of 16 miles of Highway 226 to Interstate standards, including a new location portion, to provide a connection between the new location of Highway 67 North of Newport and Highway 63 in Jonesboro. Highway 67 from Newport to Walnut Ridge and Highway 63 from Jonesboro to Interstate 55 are currently being built to Interstate standards. Improvements to Highway 26 will provide a four-lane connection between Highways 67 and 63.

**\$2 million to the Interstate 69 Connector Project.** This project is for the construction of a new location, four-lane, controlled-access highway extending from Interstate 530 in Pine Bluff to Highway 278 in the vicinity of Monticello and the proposed Interstate 69 Corridor. This project is approximately 39 miles.

**\$5.696 million to Diamond Exchange at Perry Road and I-540 in Rogers.** These funds will assist with the construction of the diamond exchange and connect Perry Road with I-540.

**\$1 million to Interstate 430/630 for Interchange Modification.** These funds are for conceptual design studies, environmental handling, and final design to modify the I-430/I630 interchange in west Little Rock.

**\$750,000 to I-49 (Highway 71) – Louisiana State Line to Doddridge.** This project is part of the relocation of Highway 71 as a new Interstate-type highway from Missouri to Louisiana, also known as Interstate 49. Highway 71 is part of the Congressionally Designated High Priority Corridor 1.

**\$300,000 to Yellow Bend Port.** Funds will be used to conduct a feasibility study examining which of three rail routes would be best for the Port. When Yellow Bend Port has rail service and facilities to transfer cargo between rail and water, it will be one of only four public harbors on the Arkansas side of the Mississippi River with this capability. The Port will also have immediate access to I-69 when it is completed.

**\$550,000 for Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission.** These funds will give Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission assistance in completing the ITS Regional Architecture plan. The population in Northwest Arkansas has increased 47.5% since 1990.

**\$750,000 to I-530 Extension to I-20.**

**\$450,000 to Mack Blackwell Paving Material Study.** The Mack Blackwell Transportation Center at the University of Arkansas will use these funds to complete the Mack Blackwell Paving Material Study.

**\$400,000 to Central Arkansas Transit Authority.** Funding will be used by Central Arkansas Transit Authority for bus replacement.

#### **ARKANSAS AIRPORT NEEDS**

**\$1 million to the Baxter County Regional Airport.** This funding will provide for the development of a parallel runway at Baxter County Regional Airport.

**\$1 million to the Saline County Airport.** This funding will provide for installation of the Instrumental Landing System (ILS).

**\$360,000 to the Mena Intermountain Municipal Airport.** This funding will provide for the installation of Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) lights for the Mena Intermountain Municipal Airport. The PAPI lights are an integral part of the ILS that is presently being installed on Runway 27.

**\$700,000 to Rogers Municipal Airport.** The Rogers Municipal Airport will use this federal assistance to fund the airport's new tower.

The Transportation Appropriations bill also directs the FAA to place a high priority on the following airport for Department of Transportation discretionary grants in FY 2005:

Northwest Arkansas Regional - in need of taxiway construction;

Texarkana Regional/Webb Field - needs funding for terminal renovation;